

# TOP OF THE HILL

MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY 4001 HARDING ROAD, NASHVILLE, TN 37205  
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## The Winter Issue

### *Shuddersome* Brings Poe to Life!

By Andrew McCloud

This year the Junior School play was *Shuddersome: Tales of Poe*. This play features many works by Edgar Allan Poe and include “The Tell Tale Heart,” “The Bells,” “The Oval Portrait,” “The Raven,” “The Lionizing,” and “The Masque of the Red Death.” “The Tell Tale Heart” is the story of a man who goes crazy and eventually kills an old man because of his “vulture eye.” “The Bells” is the story of silver, brass, iron, and gold bells. The bells represent different stages in life. The silver bells represent childhood, the gold bells represent a time of romance, the brass bells represent dying, and the iron bells represent death and the afterlife. “The Oval Portrait” is the story of a woman who gets painted, and while she is getting painted, ghouls steal her soul. “The Raven” is the story of a man who is stricken with grief after losing his love. One night a raven walks into



his home and speaks to him, and he thinks it to be his lost Lenore. “The Lionizing” is the story of Robert Jones, who had a large nose, and he loved to flaunt it, but he learns that all success comes at a cost after his friends turn on him after Robert shoots off the Elector of Bluddelnuff’s nose. “The Masque of the Red Death” is the story of a prince who invites his many friends over for a party. The night of the party a masqued figure shows up and kills everyone.

As an actor, I had a great time doing this show. The cast, consisting of Harpeth Hall and MBA students, really bonded, and everyone ended with new friends. The director, Mr. Nelson Berry, was great at helping everyone to portray their parts in the best way

possible. The show ended with great performances, and the whole cast was sad for it to be over.

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# Shuddersome: Tales of Poe

## Shuddersome: Tales of Poe: A Behind- the-Scenes Look

By William Curley

This year's Junior School play was a little confusing for those who have not seen the works of Poe before. This article is meant to highlight the story plots and some of what happens to get the show in the theatre.

### *Shuddersome: Tales of Poe*



is a showing of six of Edgar Allan Poe's best poems/ stories such as: "Tell-Tale Heart," "The Bells," "Oval Portrait," "The Raven," "Lionizing," and "The Masque of the Red Death." The short story "Tell-Tale Heart" tells of a young man confessing what happened when he killed his old master. While he tells the tale, he is also trying to prove he is not mad. "The Bells" is a poem that tells of four types of bells. These are Silver bells, representing childish fun, Golden bells, dwelling on the happy future, Brass bells, voicing



*Some of the cast and crew of Shuddersome*

pain and suffering, and Iron bells, hollering their deep, deadly sound. "The Oval Portrait" is about a beautiful young lady who has her soul sucked out while a painting is being made of her. "The Raven" is a poem about a man suffering from the loss of his wife, Lenore, until a saintly raven comes from the ancient days of lore and speaks to him and says: "Nevermore." "Lionizing" is the story of Robert Jones, who has a big nose, which he tries to use to become famous. While he is at a party, he throws himself into a dispute, which ends with a duel. The outcome is that the other person is injured when Robert shoots his nose off. Because of this action, everyone rebukes him. In "The Masque of the Red Death," the Prince and his friends try to escape the Red Death, a terrible pestilence causing the victims to bleed out of well.....everywhere. The group tries to have fun but is overwhelmed by fear. The Red Death finally enters and kills everyone, starting with the Prince.

Initially, when I came to help out with the play, I was hoping for a part. Last year I helped with the tech on sound. This year I was asked to help with the lights. This assignment

was an upgrade from last year, I was glad to see that we had more than three tech people (the number we had last year). On my first and second days working on the play, I sat and watched what the actors knew so far.

On Saturday, January 20th I went to the theatre to help plan the light cues for three hours. The lighting improved after adjustments on Sunday and our first big rehearsal. After Sunday, the lights were done, so I was able to start pressing buttons. We worked on the play after school until about 5:30 every day until Thursday, our first performance. I was a little worried about the performance because during rehearsal, we could not hear one or two people. Luckily, it was fixed, and all three showings were good. As with all live performances, each showing had some mess-ups, but I think, overall, everyone did a good job.

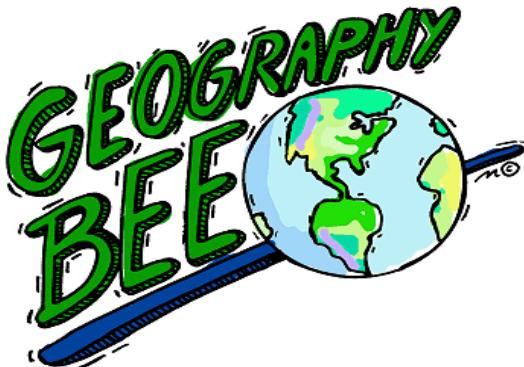
The Junior School play is an awesome experience that all actors and "techies" will love. It is great to have that type of experience under your belt. You also have the chance to meet other seventh and eighth graders from Harpeth Hall and MBA.

# Shuddersome: Tales of Poe



*The Cast and Crew of Shuddersome: Tales of Poe--Photos Courtesy of Dr. Cal Fuller*

# JS Students Excel at the Bees

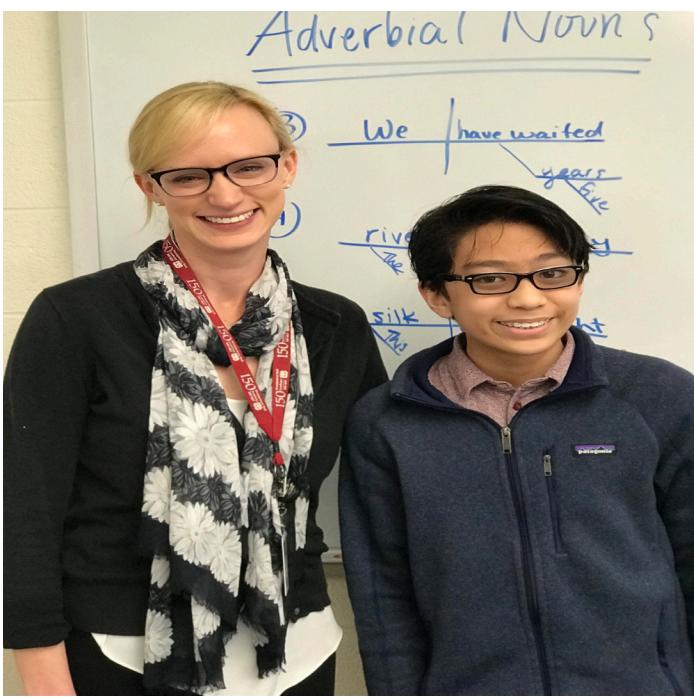


For the Geography Bee this year, Garrett Goodrum was the school winner. The tie-breaker question to put him ahead of Peter Roark (the other finalist) was "A crater lake formed on Mount Pinatubo after a massive eruption in 1991. This volcano is located near Quezon City in what country? (Philippines)"



*Garrett Goodrum, Geography Bee Champ*

If Garrett qualifies for the state bee, he will compete against ninety-nine other Tennesseans for the chance to advance to the national bee in Washington, DC. School winners from across the state took an online test of seventy multiple choice questions; the top one hundred qualify for state, which will be April 6.



*Mrs. Bassett and Chanden Climaco, Spelling Bee Champ*



By Mrs. Bassett

After our snow day delay, the MBA Spelling Bee took place during break on Tuesday, January 23. Nine Junior School students from both the seventh and eighth grades showed up to compete with words from the Scripps National Spelling Bee's 2017-2018 Test for Eighth Graders. After several rounds, Chanden Climaco ('23) spelled "parenthetical" correctly to win the school-wide bee. After completing the online test on February 14, Chanden received notification that he scored within the top 70 in the state to advance to the Tennessee Titans Regional Spelling Bee at Nissan Stadium on March 10. On that Saturday Chanden

will compete against students from across the state for one of two spots in the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C. from May 29-31. The national spelling bee was founded in 1925 and has been held continuously since that time, excepting a three-year hiatus during World War II (1943, 1944, 1945). That makes this year the 91st national spelling bee in our nation's history.

# Summer Wilson Grant: The Human Body

By Ian Durelli

Everyone knows that Wilson Grants are an outstanding opportunity to learn more about a subject that interests you. In the Junior School, there are many Wilson Grants offered to students interested in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.) One of these summer STEM camps is a two week class on a subject of your choice at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island. There were five students last year in the seventh grade that went for different classes, including engineering, math, robotics. My class was a human body class.

This class offered me a chance to learn more about the human body by not taking regular classes and reading out of textbooks. I got to participate in labs, projects, and I was able to dissect many animals. Along with learning more about the human body, there were other fun classes and activities after classes finished for the day. I would get to see the other MBA students who were taking other classes in the dorm room, out of class activities, and walking around campus. The out of class activities included a trampoline park, a minor league baseball game, bowling, mini golf, and go karting. We met new friends whom we have kept in touch. However, the main classes were the best part.

Anyone who went to one of these camps for a Wilson grant would surely tell you that their class was a wonderful experience. Whether the class was making robots or dissecting



sheep brains, everyone had a wonderful time thanks to the kindness and generosity of the Wilson Family, who made it possible for us to attend such a wonderful program.

In my class we dissected many things including a cow eye, sheep brain, chicken wing, and a cat. We took labs that involved blood samples and another in which we tested our heart rates before and after certain activities

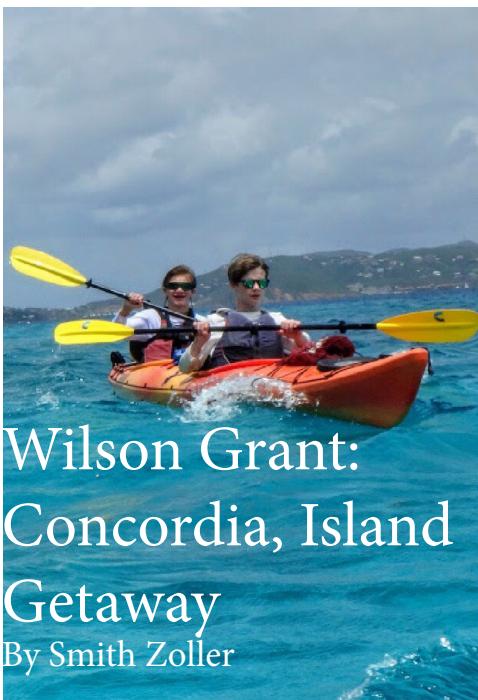
such as biking. We learned many things in these labs and in the class. I left this camp with a strengthened knowledge in the human body, multiple friends from different states and countries, and an amazing experience that I will always remember.

To anyone that has already signed up for these summer camps at Brown University, I can guarantee you will love it as much as I did. For seventh graders who did not take advantage of this outstanding opportunity, I highly suggest you do it next year as an eighth grader.

Without time  
By The Third King

The perfect Harmony ringed through the air,  
It hanged in the air forever,  
People hurried to the streets,  
They listened to rose petals hit the ground,  
They listened in perfect order, in a straight line,  
They listened to those pedals grow and fall,  
The perfect symmetry, the perfect person,  
The Perfect Sound.

All living in perfect vain of  
The injustice,  
The dignity,  
The indignity,  
That is time,  
As unfair time may be,  
Without it,  
the perfect killer rings through the air and  
hangs for how long?



## Wilson Grant: Concordia, Island Getaway

By Smith Zoller

5:30 a.m.

I have just been awakened from a dreamless sleep to be informed that it was time to crawl out of bed and get ready for a commute to the Nashville airport. Today was the day I would be taking a once in a lifetime trip to St. John for a week under the supervision of Montgomery Bell Academy. In a span of less than two hours, I was already attaching a destination sticker on my overly large suitcase, checking into American Airlines, and engaging in small talk with my brother, who was also going on the journey. The first people I met up with at the airport were my two chaperones, Mr. Cirillo and Mr. Simpson. Then, the other twelve boys that would be attending the trip slowly trickled in. The time at the airport

through the windows of the ferry, we could see tall tourist shops, flashy boats docked in the pier, and houses hanging off the sides of mountains. Our destination where we would be staying would be a resort on the opposite side of the island named Concordia, owned by an MBA alumnus. So, we witnessed an assortment of lifestyles on our journey there while riding in a open air taxi. Farm animals walked on the roads, children played comfortably in open fields, restaurants were scattered randomly along the terrain, and most importantly, our taxi somehow could turn a corner so sharply that it didn't tip off the side of the mountain. Our taxi stopped abruptly on a small concrete area used as a parking lot. Peeking over the open rail sides of the taxi, I saw that we had made it to the resort. Like the houses we saw from the ferry, it overlooked the vast blue ocean, but the view was unspoiled from the sound of boats. The sounds we did hear from the resort included the ocean crashing against the side of the rocky beach. Everyone was assigned to cabins, our phones were confiscated( and one kid's light up fidget spinner), and we lugged our suitcases up a long wooden staircase. Differing from other cabins on the resort, we stayed in eco like houses, using solar panels and stored rain water to fulfill our needs. Since it was already late by the time we settled in, we ate dinner at the restaurant on the resort grounds, ending day one.

Throughout the week long period we stayed at St. John, we engaged daily in different activities to fully explore the island. On the first full day we spent there,

we woke up early in the morning to take a taxi that would drive us into a small shopping district on the island. We ate breakfast and then walked to a small beach to climb into kayaks. Kayaking on the Island was drastically different than kayaking anywhere in Nashville. You have to position yourself away

from the shore so that you don't get pulled towards the shore by the ocean currents, all the while you are making powerful strokes in the water to fight against the current. We pulled out of the beach in partnered kayaks, staying along the island shore to reach an empty beach to snorkel and eat lunch.

While eating lunch we had a surprise visit by... well I don't know, ten, fifteen, twenty seagulls that made quick and violent dives towards us to get just a single bite of our food. We left the beach before sundown and after parking our kayaks on the original beach, we were able to walk around freely to explore or to buy something.

The next day we kayaked again, but in a whole different location. Instead of circling the island, we were surrounded by mountains on our left and right. We ate lunch on a miniature island, where we tried to lure crabs out from the trees with bits of food. Some actually tried to make the crabs



fight each other, I promise no crabs were hurt in the process. On our journey back at the end of the day, we set up a race between each kayak. We began behind an invisible starting line, circled a buoy, then finished strong. Luckily, my kayak won right in front of Mr. Simpson's kayak, something he'll deny if you ever bring it up. The next highlight of the trip was when we went on a hike. Although it sounds boring, you have to realize that we were exploring the islands of St. John. Along the way, we spotted a dead tarantula in the middle of the path. Ignoring it, we kept on walking until we reached a stopping point beside old ruins of a forgotten home. We were about to leave until another classmate said he spotted a tarantula hawk, the second most painful sting an insect can inflict in the whole world. It would have explained the dead tarantula that we had passed just minutes before, but we didn't want to find out what the tarantula felt before its life withered away, so we kept on walking. Besides getting to experience a taste of island life, the trip was a fun gateway to meet a few of my MBA classmates before the school year. And, I was finally able to take a break from my summer reading.



was short, consisting only of breakfast and arguments sparked after a boy walked in wearing a Logan Paul hoodie. We traveled from Nashville to Charlotte to St. Thomas Island in a span of six hours, transported by tedious plane rides, nauseous taxies, and bouncing ferries. As the island drew closer



# American Landmarks: Wilson Grant Trip 2017

By Lawson Paterson

The American Landmarks Trip began on June 18, 2017 and consisted of twelve rising eighth-graders led by Dr. Bailey, Coach Brown, and Mr. Rundberg. Our first day began at Nashville International Airport. We then proceeded onto our flight. After about a hour and a half of flight time, we landed at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport in Washington

D.C. From there, we headed south for about three hours and eventually reached Jamestown, Virginia. Upon arriving at each site, two members of the group would present the historical background and significance of each space. We spent the rest of the first day touring Jamestown and seeing such sites as the Jamestown Church. Once the tour was over, the group headed to our hotel and ate dinner in York County which concluded our first day.

The second day consisted of touring the recreated sites in Williamsburg and exploring the College of William and Mary. We saw specific artifacts and buildings such as original guillotines, cannons, clay huts, and the Williamsburg Courthouse. Early on the third day we crossed the James River by ferry and explored Bacon's Castle, the oldest brick dwelling in the eastern United States. Later that day, we proceeded on to Yorktown, the site of the decisive battle where the British surrendered in the Revolutionary War.

On our fourth day before we headed back to D.C., we toured Mount Vernon and the area around it. Following our check in to the hotel, we headed to the

National Mall and then the African American History Museum. Our tour included several other sites such as the Library of Congress and the Washington Monument. The rest of the day consisted of meeting with Congressman Jim Cooper, visiting the senate office of Lamar Alexander, a tour of the capitol, and watching a Senate hearing. In the evening, we saw several other D.C. landmarks such as the Vietnam War Memorial, World War II Memorial, and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial.

On the morning on fifth day, we made our way towards Gettysburg. As we arrived at the museum, we ate lunch then proceeded with the tour, seeing



numerous landmarks throughout Gettysburg's beautiful terrain, thus ending our fifth day. Our sixth day included driving to Baltimore and visiting Fort McHenry, the infamous fort attacked during the War of 1812. As we visited Fort McHenry, we also saw recreated settlements and Fort McHenry's port. Following the tour of Fort McHenry, we headed back to Reagan National Airport and flew back home to Nashville.

The American Landmarks trip was a fun learning experience for all who went. Each student was able to demonstrate his knowledge on this trip and was rewarded with an experience which interested everyone.



Mount Vernon

# Star Wars: The Last Jedi

By Carter Ozburn

Some say that this is movie is the greatest in the *Star Wars* saga. Others say that it was too long and dragged on for a while. It is the longest *Star Wars* movie by far, at two hours and thirty two minutes, but not necessarily the greatest. At the beginning of the movie, it is evident that the First Order is very close to wiping out the "rebel scum." They mount a desperate escape and after the resistance is tracked through light speed, they wait out the storm. General Hux orders his gunners to bombard them mercilessly. While the rebels attempt to escape, Rey is busy trying to learn the ways

of the Force from obstinate Jedi master Luke Skywalker. Rey soon finds she can speak with Kylo Ren through their Force connection. After much discussion, she and Kylo touch hands through the Force. Luke sees them doing this and tries to stop them but it is too late. Rey soon finds out that Luke tried to kill Ben Solo and leaves for Snoke's Star Destroyer. She believes she can turn Kylo Ren back into Ben Solo and kill Supreme Leader Snoke. While Rey goes with Ben, Finn has his own little side adventure with the unexpected hero, Rose. After infiltrating Snoke's flagship with a codebreaker (sort of) they try to shut down the Destroyer's tracker. They are caught by stormtroopers and are to be executed by the Executioner Troopers.

This movie was very satisfying and plenty of awesome action scenes and unexpected twists.

While it did drag on for a while, I think it was a pretty good overall movie.

Thank You Mr. Rochford!!

On the Wednesday after exams, the seventh graders were given a gift by Mr. Rochford. The gift included a ticket to the *Last Jedi*, a soda, and a bag of popcorn. The experience was very quick and efficient; the seventh graders were given two tickets, one for the movie, one for concessions, and went through the line and into the theater. The seventh graders found their seats and enjoyed the highest rated *Star Wars* movie on Rotten Tomatoes. The gift came at the perfect time, and the seventh graders were all very grateful that someone was rewarding them for their hard work. Additionally, the movie was spectacular! Thanks so much Mr. Rochford and have a great year!



*The Seventh Grade enjoys a day at the movies.*

**The seventh-grade holiday movie experience is a six-year-old tradition that has been kindly donated by Mr. John Rochford. Over the years, the MBA seventh-grade microbes have enjoyed *The Hobbit* trilogy, and now the continuing saga of the *Star Wars* franchise.**

**Thank you, Mr. Rochford!**

# Big Red Robotics: In a Nutshell

By Lain Orndorff

As a member of the robotics team here at MBA, I am constantly confronted with one question: "What do you do in robotics?" Well, here is the answer to all of your questions.

Robotics begins with try outs, before school even starts. They consist of brain teasers, puzzles, and other challenging tasks. After a few weeks, you receive the results and dive right in. The competition begins with an orientation and viewing of the field at Lipscomb.

The competition is assembled by an organization called BEST. That is an acronym for Boosting Engineering, Science, and Technology. They work all across the United States, hosting competitions that support the growth of fascination with engineering in the youth. There are competitions in different states, and the winners advance to regionals, where if they win, they have a shot at the final competition.

We met in the morning at the gymnasium to see the course that we will compete on. After that, we move to the science building at Lipscomb, and take classes, such as an introductory to the parts or tips and tricks to build the best robot.

The field consists of multiple tasks, which change, along with the theme, every year. This time, the theme was "Crossfire." On the course this time, we had to save "Manny the Mannequin" by dragging him to a specific box, shoot practice golf balls at cups to "extinguish the fires," and carry paint cans to a "containment zone." Depending on how many cups each team knocks down, how quickly, or if you can even do the tasks at all, you get a certain amount of points.

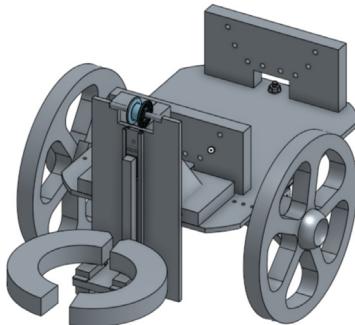


The team with the most points wins.

Each school or team is provided with a box of parts that they may use on their robot. They consist of two categories: consumables and returnables.

In the returnables, there are motors, batteries, wires, and things similar to that. The consumables are things like wood, PVC, styrofoam, and cardboard. There are other items that you receive, but everyone gets the same things so that there is a level playing field.

Another component of the competition is the Physics Notebook. It consists of thought processes, CADs, and images of the robot and how it came to be.



Big Red Robotics began with a brainstorm of how to complete the tasks, and with what to do so. We made a chart of the pros and cons of some ideas, and seeing which turned out to be best. We ended up choosing a double-claw to grab and lift the cans, which would also function to pick up Manny, with the help of attachments to surround the body. A catapult was constructed out of PVC and metal piping. The whole process takes six weeks. We also CAD the parts that we are given, so that we can have a digital representation of the robot. We work on every Tuesday and Thursday on the robot. The days are filled with endless CADing, trial and error, and building. But in the end, it all pays off.

On the competition day, just like the orientation, we meet in the morning at Lipscomb, ready to roll. There are booths

filled with robots and people in school mascot costumes. The place is bustling with parents and kids wearing bright school robotics shirts. The day begins with a practice run of the field, where teams can individually test their robots in the real thing. Ours was working well until disaster struck.

Our claws had gripped the three paint cans and were slowly lifting, when a loud snap came from the bot. Everyone dropped what they were doing and flew onto the robot to find the problem. It had turned out that our special 3D printed part had snapped from all of the pressure. The broken piece inhibited us from using our top claw, so it was removed. It prevented us from picking up all three cans, making us pick up only two, and hoping that the one on the top would stay.

The actual competition begins with a series of rounds, in which each robot competes a multiple times in against different schools. At the end of those rounds, whichever teams have the most points advance to the semi finals. MBA made it in as a wildcard team because of the notebook. But, sadly, we did not make it far.

We waited for the rest of the competition for the awards ceremony that consisted of prizes such as the best physics notebook, the spirit and sportsmanship award, or also a most beautiful robot award. Unfortunately, MBA did not win anything either.

Although we did not walk away with a victory or award, we learned a lot this season. We got a laser cutter, so we will save a lot more time and hopefully, come out on top next year as the BEST robot competition victors.





# Is the Government Getting Rid of Daylight Savings Time?



By Jackson Francis

Daylight-saving time was created to help people, but many people actually see it as a major problem. Daylight-saving time is the time during which clocks are set one hour or more ahead of standard time to provide more daylight at the end of the working day during spring, summer, and early fall. Many states in the U.S. have pushed to be on standard time all year long, and Hawaii and Arizona have already gotten rid of the custom to set the clocks one hour ahead every year. A reason that states are pushing to get rid of it is because it is too much of a hassle for people to remember to set their clocks and get up on time. Daylight-saving time also causes air travel synchronization to be difficult, which can lead to travel delays and lost revenue. Another reason that most people don't consider or know about it is that it causes health issues. It can disrupt your sleep schedule, your metabolism, your mood, your stress levels, and other bodily rhythms. "The sheer number of people impacted by DST all at once leads to some surprising associations, including a spike in heart attacks, increased numbers of work injuries, automobile accidents, suicides, and more in the days after." (Dave Mosher, Business Insider). Another major problem with daylight-saving time is that it increases gasoline consumption, which the petroleum industry has known since the 1930s. Activities and the vehicle use increases with the extra daylight. Maybe the most widely argued problem is that daylight-saving time doesn't decrease energy use in some areas. It actually seems to increase it in some areas. One example is Indiana. Statistics showed that people used less electricity for light in 2006, but this was cancelled out by people who used more electricity for air conditioning during the early evenings.

Even though there are many people who oppose daylight-saving time, there are still many people who think daylight-saving time is very beneficial. The person who is most credited with the idea of daylight-saving time is Benjamin Franklin who wrote the idea in 1784 in Paris. Daylight-saving time has been around since WWI, when Germany was the first country to adopt it. Daylight-saving time was adopted because it was believed to help conserve energy. This argument is the main one that people who favor daylight-savings time bring to the table. They argue that the long day encourages people not to use electricity for light as much because they can use the sunlight. "Most advocates cite a 2008 report to Congress by the Department of Energy which showed that total electricity savings from the extended daylight-saving period amounted to 1.3 terawatt-hours, or 0.03 percent of electricity consumption over the year. That's a tiny number. But if electricity costs 10 cents per kilowatt, that means an estimated \$130 million in savings each year." (Dave Mosher, Business Insider) Another argument is that the extra sunlight encourages people to go out and spend money like going shopping or playing golf. "The golf industry told Congress that an extra month of daylight-saving was worth \$200 million in 1986. The BBQ industry said extending DST would boost sales by \$100 million." (Dave Mosher, Business Insider)

Daylight-saving time is not as important as many people believe it to be. There are many more reasons against it than there are for it, and over time the cons outweigh the pros. Having to remember

*Continued on page 11*



**Daylight Savings**  
**Continued from page 10**

on a certain day of the year to change your clock is too worrisome because you can miss whatever activity or event you have the next day. Rick Tillis, a Tennessee state representative, has introduced a bill to make daylight-saving time permanent in Tennessee. "I believe a switch to year-round Daylight Saving Time will have a remarkable impact on our state. The extra hour of daylight should enhance the health and overall quality of life of our residents by encouraging them to become more active, and also spend extra time supporting our local businesses," said Tillis. If this happened it would not really matter that much. What many people want is just one system to go by year round so it cuts out a lot of unnecessary hardships. A thing that many people don't know is that "Daylight saving time in the United States was not intended to benefit farmers." (Christopher Klein, History.com) Many American farmers actually did not want daylight-saving time because that meant they would have to do more work in the fields. They deeply opposed the time switch when it was put in place in March 31, 1918 to help with the war. This plan was very disruptive to farmers' schedules because they "had to wait an extra hour for dew to evaporate to harvest hay, hired hands worked less since they left at the same time for dinner, and cows weren't ready to be milked an hour earlier to meet shipping schedules." (Christopher Klein, History.com). Farmers led a fight for the repeal in 1919 of national daylight-saving time. Congress voted to override President Woodrow Wilson's veto. "Rather than rural interests, it has been urban entities such as retail outlets and recreational businesses that have championed daylight saving over the decades." (Christopher Klein, History.com). Daylight-saving time came back to some states in the U.S. with the Uniform Time Act in 1966.

<http://www.timesfreepress.com/news/breakingnews/story/2018/jan/29/daylight-saving-time-tennesseeforever/462368/>

<https://ahdictionary.com/word/search.html?q=daylight-saving+time>

<http://www.history.com/news/8-things-you-may-not-know-about-daylight-saving-time>

<https://www.popularmechanics.com/science/environment/a18011/in-defense-of-daylight-saving-time/>

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[https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-fix/wp/2015/03/12/a-bunch-of-states-want-to-get-rid-of-daylight-saving-time-is-your-state-one-of-them/?utm\\_term=.a6722fb978bc](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-fix/wp/2015/03/12/a-bunch-of-states-want-to-get-rid-of-daylight-saving-time-is-your-state-one-of-them/?utm_term=.a6722fb978bc)



### CREATIVE WRITING CONTESTS: WIN MONEY!

Who: 7th and 8th graders

What: Short stories and poetry composed during the current school year.

Short story length: 3-8 pages, double-spaced

#### Jesse Hill Ford Short Story Contest

Prize: The best short story wins \$150!

**Due: Wednesday, April 18th**

Turn in a printed copy and also e-mail a copy to Mrs. Roberts.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### The Rascoe Bond Davis Creative Writing Contest

**Categories: Poetry and Fiction**

1st place \$50

2nd place \$35

3rd place \$10

Turn in a printed copy and also e-mail a copy to Mrs. Roberts.

Junior School Entries **Due by Wednesday, April 18th.**

# Honest Gabe's Advice for Microbes



Dear Gabe,

Valentines Day was a disaster for me. Do you have any suggestions? I need some help with dinner and gifts.

Thanks so much,

Trying to be Romantic, Seventh Grader

**Dear Romantically Challenged Seventh grader,**

**Sorry to hear V-day bombed. Romance and getting it right is always tricky. Here is some advice. Pick a nice place for a meal; however, don't go above what you can afford. All that matters is that you both are there, and no one yells at the obviously stressed waiter for spilling coke all over the table. Expressions of anger are one quick way to lose your date.**

**As for gifts, first and foremost, know what she may be allergic to, as when you show up with a box of chocolates containing nuts, she may be immediately sent to the ER, and your date will be spent explaining a 911 call and two angry parents to your angry parents.**

**Farewell, and good luck,**

*Honest Gabe*



**TOH Meetings are  
every Tuesday in  
M21!**

# WHAT IS DACA?

## Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

By Reid Ragsdale

Recently the US Government was shut down for three days after there was a failed compromise over a spending bill that involved a change in immigration policy. On the following Monday, the Senate came to an agreement that reopened the government and requires the Republicans, who as a majority backed the vote, to have a resolve for the young undocumented immigrants in the country that are protected by the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals policy or DACA.

DACA was signed in 2012 under the Obama administration as an executive act that protects the rights of around 800,000 young illegal immigrants. The policy allows some illegal immigrants who have a clean record to escape deportation and obtain a work permit. In 2014, President Obama announced his plan to expand the rules of DACA to make more people eligible

to apply. However, there was much controversy after the policy was put into effect because it was created by the president and not Congress. Steve King, a Republican Senator from Iowa who led the debate to defund DACA said “The point here is... the President does not have the authority to waive immigration law, nor does he have the authority to create it out of thin air.”

A few years later during Donald Trump’s campaign, he announced his intent to repeal DACA. After his election to the presidency, it was announced on September 5, 2017 that DACA would be repealed due to its supporting illegal immigrants who impacted the income and employment of American citizens.

There was major reaction from both political sides, but most of the backlash came from the people who were directly affected by the repeal of DACA. Many states filed a lawsuit against the government, and many universities and religious organizations have condemned President Trump for his actions calling them “unconscionable.”

Personally, I believe that people do have the right to come into this country and try to better their lives. I think that they should do it legally like everyone else, but if there are cases of immigrants who snuck over the border when they were

younger they should stay until they have received an education. After their education, I think they should return to their country and use their education to try to better the lives of those in it. But unfortunately, 21% of DACA recipients have dropped out of high school and around 3,000 of the 800,000 recipients have committed a crime in which a majority of the crimes involved gangs. I think that if some of these “dreamers” are not willing to take the opportunity they were given and work their hardest to better their lives than they should be deported.

All eyes are on the Senate as they prepare a plan for the DACA recipients and immigration policies. The Senate has until February to decide on an agreement concerning government funding and immigration policy. The recipients of DACA have until March 5 when their passes expire, and they will be required to return back to their home countries.



Photo: Slate.com

# Matthew's Common Pencils Review

By Matthew Hyde

Pencils are more than writing utensils; they give its wielder the ability to construct their imagination. A good pencil can even help a person get higher grades on an assignment. There is one thing that pencils can be judged by and that's effectiveness.

I do not recommend wood pencils or the common brand Ticonderoga because they are not effective. For example, they do not have reusable erasers, which often leads to frustration and having to buy more pencils. Wooden pencils also require sharpening. The act of sharpening is annoying and takes time. On my scale wooden pencils score a 3 out of 10.

I will be reviewing three different types of mechanical pencils. The standard mechanical pencil is the Bic strong lead 0.9 number 2 lead. The price for a standard 24 pack of the pencils cost 7.99 which means each pencil is being sold for .33 cents. The Bic pencil is the mechanical pencil

standard and the rival to the Ticonderoga pencil. This pencil features replaceable erasers and a grip. Instead of sharpening, the pencil uses an easy click eraser mechanism which brings up the effective

meter drastically. My rating for the



pencil is a 6.

The next pencil on my list is the Paper Mate Comfortmate Ultra Starter Set Mechanical Pencils, 0.7mm, 2-set. The pencil is priced at 3.94 for two pencils. This price makes each pencil 1.97. These pencils feature a rubber grip for ultra comfort, a replaceable eraser, and a clip. The most important feature this pencil has is that the package comes with five extra erasers and twelve pieces of lead. This exclusive feature makes this pencil very effective and not very costly. My rating for this pencil is a 7.3. All-in-all just the extra erasers and lead are worth it for the four dollars.

Another extremely popular mechanical pencil made by papermate is the Papermate Twist-Tip Advance Mechanical Pencils - 0.7mm- 6 . The best way to describe this pencil is that it gets the job done surprisingly well. This pencil cost 2.50 for six which makes each pencil extremely cheap at .42 cents. For the price of these pencils, they perform very well. Each pencil contains one long piece of lead twined into a spring in the chamber of the pencil. The long spring helps eliminate the common problem of lead breakage. The pencil also features a twist mechanism to get lead which is extremely efficient. There is one big fault with this pencil though; it is not reusable. Once the one piece of lead is used, it cannot be replaced. This factor is why the pencil is so cheap. The rating for this pencil is a 5.7.

Before the final result I would like to address one dishonorable mention, and this is the Palomino Blackwing. The Palomino Blackwing is a wooden pencil a set of twelve is priced for 23 dollars, resulting in each pencil costing 1.91! If you remember the standard wooden pencil costs

.21 cents.

The Blackwings advertises its pencil as having soft deadwood, clay mixed with graphite lead, and reusable lead. I can

admit the usable lead on a wooden pencil is a game changer, yet it's not worth an extra dollar. Even though the Blackwing has clay infused graphite it also makes the lead unbearably soft which results in constant sharpening due to this my efficiency rating for the Blackwing is a 2.5 out of ten. Moving on from this monstrosity of a pencil.

The best pencil on the market currently is the Paper Mate Clearpoint Elite. This pencil cost 7.59 for two pencils. This price point makes each pencil a hefty 3 dollars and 79 cents. The pencil contains a rubber grip, a glass chamber, a twistable eraser, and my favorite feature is an easy click button on the side of the pencil. The movement from the grip to the side of the pencil is natural and effective, compared to the click on the eraser. The pencil also carries twelve extra pieces of lead and two extra large erasers. The pencil also has lead shield to prevent breakage. This pencil is an amazing writing utensil; the efficiency rating for this pencil is a 8.9.

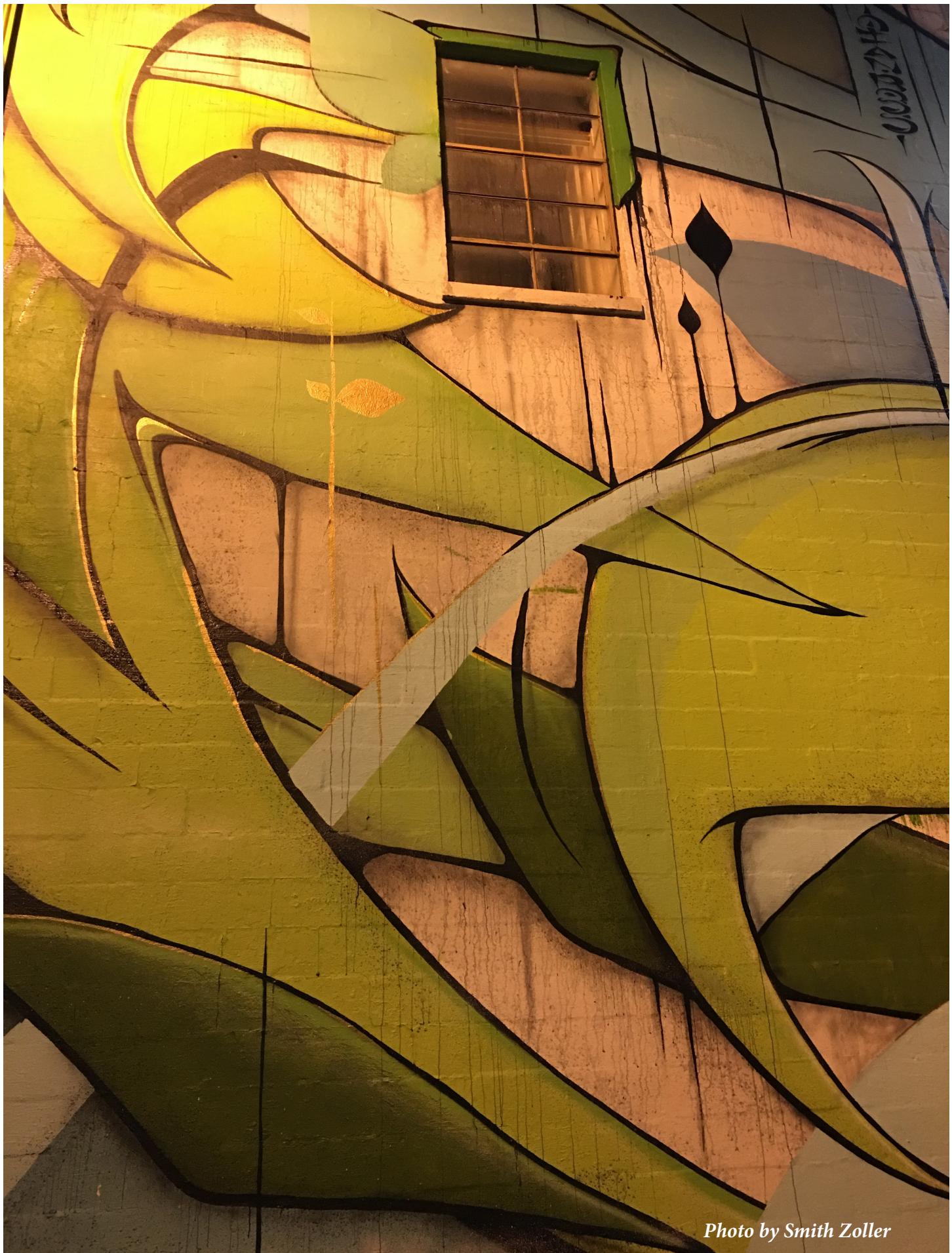
Everybody has their own opinions when it comes to pencils so make sure to find which one is best for you.



*The dreaded Palomino Blackwing*



*Matthew's choice: the Papermate Clearpoint Elite*



*Photo by Smith Zoller*

# THE HORROR CORNER

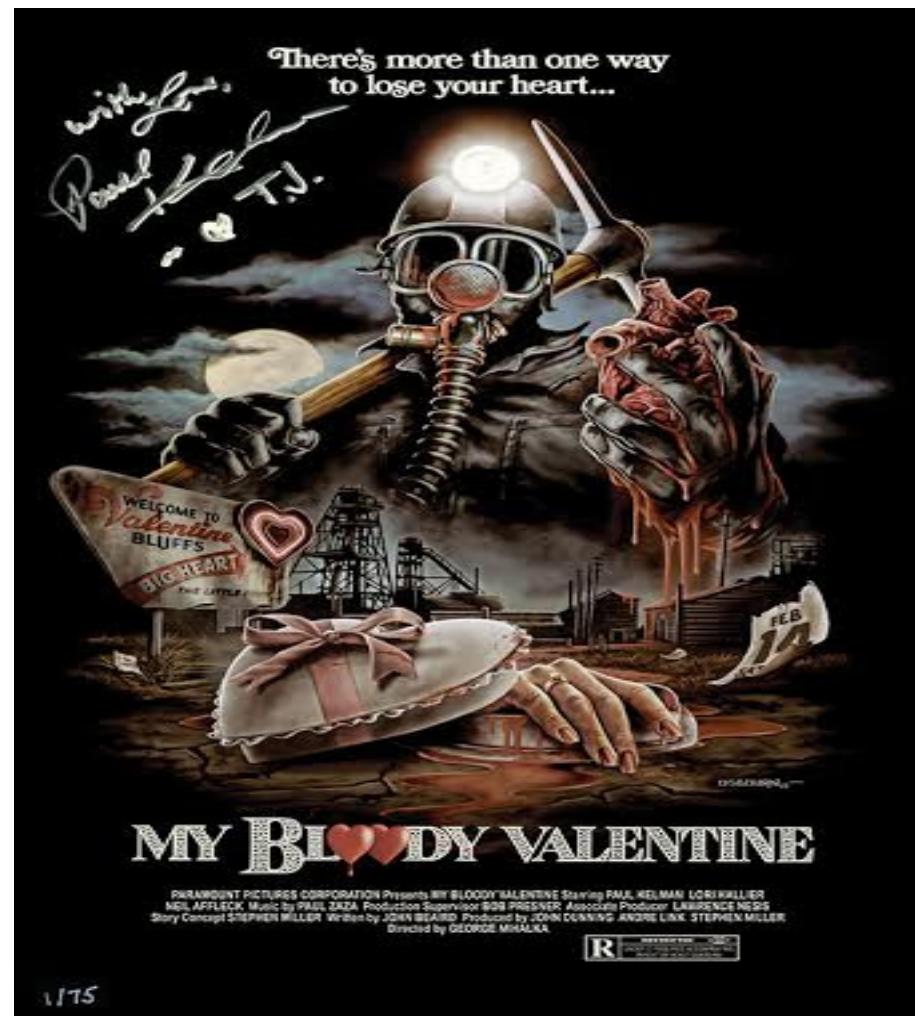
## My Bloody Valentine

By KJ Scruggs

Was this year's Valentine's Day viewing the same old boring romantic film? If you are looking for a change next year, a film that is both scary and romantic, I suggest watching *My Bloody Valentine*. If you do decide to watch this movie, there are spoilers ahead.

The movie takes place in the mining town of Harmony. An accident that buries six men alive is caused by the son of the owner of the mine, Tom Hanniger. When the rescue team finds the men, five men are murdered by a pickax and only one is left alive but in a coma. His name was Harry Warden, and the rescue team concludes that Harry murdered the remaining men to save oxygen for himself. On Valentine's Day, he awakens from his coma with the same mentality as before. He ends up killing twenty-two people, including individuals in the hospital and some teenagers he finds partying in the mine. Tom along with a few other teens are found in the mine. Tom is hit by Warden's pickax and injured. He runs into the mine as an escape from Warden, but the police soon arrive and shoot Warden. Tom disappears after the shocking events.

Ten years later, Tom returns to the town after his father's death. He inherits the mine and returns only to sell it. Tom's friends who abandoned him in the mine years ago, Axel, Irene, and Sarah, now live their own lives. Axel is now the sheriff of the town,



and he is married to Sarah. Irene is murdered in the same hotel where Tom is staying when he arrives in town. Tom disappears before the cops arrive, and they find Irene's body with her heart missing. Axel later receives a candy box, and inside of it is Irene's heart.

Tom visits the mine and there he is locked in a cage. The killer nearly kills the manager and we later find out that Tom and his father buried Warden. Tom, Axel, and Sarah go to the burial spot only to find that Warden's body is missing, and they find the manager's body instead with his chest ripped open. Rumors have gone around that Warden was never dead, and he was trying to kill everyone. Axel later calls Sarah and tells her that Tom was in a mental hospital for the last seven years since Warden's killings, and that he is the killer. Tom, Sarah, and Axel appear in the mine together, and it is revealed that Tom is the killer. He has a split

personality: Harry Warden and himself. Axel and Tom end up fighting, but Axel ends up shooting the gas tank, causing an explosion. A rescue team shows up, and a rescuer finds Tom injured under some planks. Tom then murders the rescuer. In the end, we see a miner who is limping and is holding his side. He unmasks himself, and it turns out to be Tom, ending the movie.

In my opinion, this movie was very entertaining. It had some twists and turns to it, making it interesting. I would give the movie a 4.5 out of 5. While there are two versions of the movie, the original and the remake, I do believe the remake clarifies the story better than the original surprisingly. The remake is also better quality. That's all I have for you horror fans. May next year's Valentine's Day be filled with love and boxes filled with hearts.

# The Greatest Showman is Truly the Greatest Show!

By McConnico Sharpe

*The Greatest Showman* has truly been the best original movie musical I have seen. For those of you do not know its premise, it centers around Hugh Jackman's character Phineas T. Barnum, the man who invented the circus. The film also stars Zac Efron and Zendaya. The movie is about Barnum's rise to the (big) top and the struggles and oppressions that he goes through to give his family a better life. While the film does not have much dialogue it makes up for it by using amazingly written songs sung by the all-star cast to move the story and develop the characters. This really makes it a great movie. Right about here is where I am going to talk about the movie in greater detail, so Spoilers ahead! You have been warned.

I really enjoyed how the movie began and ended with the same song revealing how far Phineas had come, and the movie showing how he got to where he is at the beginning. I also think that using a song montage to show Phineas and Charity growing up was a good way of presenting how they always loved each other (even if it was a little cliché), and the song was also pretty catchy too. After the montage ended the use of colors and imagery was applied well to reveal Phineas' being stuck in a dead-end job and the simpleness of the Barnum's home. I also thought that the "dream machine" was a very clever way of letting the audience know what Phineas wanted his family's life to be like. The way that Phineas finally came around to his circus was quite different.



He started out with a wax museum and when no one came to see it, he was forced to think of new ideas. On his desk there was an apple. One not dissimilar to the one that he had been given by a deformed woman as a child. The apple made him think of her, and in turn, a little man that he had seen when he was applying for a loan from the bank. He went to the little man's house and prompted him to join his show under the promise that "They will not laugh at you, they will salute." The man who accepts P.T.'s offer is then placed on a hunt for extraordinary persona which introduces a whole cast of colorful characters to the film such as the tormented and laughed at bearded woman, the greatly feared beast-man, and the fattest man in the world. Phineas, needing to pay back his loan, decides to exaggerate some of the persona's attributes in order to draw in crowds. The crowds begin to flood in and nearly all love the spectacle. There are others; however, like a grouchy reviewer and many small-minded hecklers who strongly dislike the acts and actively protest against it. Phineas's show (which has now been dubbed a circus) is truly giving him the life he always wanted. He soon realizes that he will need the respect and money of the upper class if he wants to keep it afloat. He enlists the help of Phillip Carlyle (Zac Efron) through what I personally think is the best song in the movie. Phillip agrees but soon grows feelings for Anne Wheeler, an African American trapeze artist. Their relationship is greatly disapproved of by all of Phillip's upper-class peers. He soon loses his status and is an outcast.

Meanwhile, Phineas, is touring around the world with Jenny Lind, a performer that he has convinced to join his acts; and they begin to develop feelings for one another. I think that this is a fantastic way of showing that P.T. was not perfect, and he doesn't always do everything for his family. Lind begins to make advances towards Phineas, yet he rejects them, and she breaks off their relationship and the tour, but not before kissing him onstage. Phineas then goes back home. As soon as he returns he hears about a fire at the circus and runs to help and goes inside to save Phillip's life. Later as he sits on the steps of his charred building he receives word that the kiss between him and Lind had been published, and he rushes home to see his wife and daughters with bags packed. Depressed and lost, Phineas turns to a pub and is soon joined by his troupe. He soon realizes that his family and the ones he holds dear are the most important things in life. He meets with his wife and promises to be a better husband and father. Phillip uses his funds from his share of the circus profits to help Phineas rebuild all that he had lost. Deciding that using the original location would be too expensive, the troupe decides to use a massive tent to house their show. The movie ends with Phineas handing over control to Phillip and spending more time with his family.

What I think my favorite part of the movie was that P.T. had promised so many people so many things just to get them to join his circus, and at the end he truly had given it to them. I rate this movie four out of five top hats!



## Movie Review

By Charlie Murff

*The Man Who Invented Christmas* is the story about Charles Dickens while he was writing *A Christmas Carol*. This movie is a biography with hints of fiction.

### SPOILERS ARE STARTING NOW!

This movie starts right after the success of *Oliver Twist* in 1838. Then the movie flashes forward five years later to 1843. At this time Charles Dickens is having financial trouble. Dickens also needs to write a big hit because his past few books were flops. So he has

the meeting the next day he tells the idea to the editors, but they say that he should not write it because to get it out in stores before Christmas he would have to finish the book in six weeks. Nevertheless, he starts writing the book anyway, but he has a problem getting started. However, once he gets passed the beginning, everything starts rolling.

Dickens writes most of the novel with no problem, until he gets to the final chapter. Dickens does not know how to finish the

house, so he cannot get any work done. Because of the pressure to meet his publishing deadline, he has a nervous breakdown, fires the servant who told him the story, and gets mad at his parents and tells them to leave. After that he goes to his office, and then something just clicks, and he has an idea for the ending. He then finishes the book. After he finished his book he is in a lot better mood and realizes he made a big mistake. So he goes to find and hire back his old servant

After he hires back the servant he goes to the train station to see if his parents are there. They are, so he apologizes and welcomes his parents back.

My thoughts on the movie are that it was good that it was not all fiction or all biography because it adds a different element to the story. Also I like how they gave the moviegoer an inside view of the brain of Charles Dickens. Overall, I think you should watch this movie because it will bring a different angle on the story of *A Christmas Carol*.

I GIVE THIS MOVIE 4  
BAH HUMBUGS.



a meeting with his editors. But, the night before the meeting, he hears his servant telling his children a story about Christmas ghosts. In

book and is having trouble. Around this time in the movie his father and mother, whom he does not get along with come to stay at his

# Fantasy Football

By Reid Smith

One of the most raved games during the NFL season is fantasy football, especially at MBA. With the high volume of participants throughout the Junior School, very few fully comprehend the ins-and-outs of the game and how to dominate their league. My goal throughout this article is to name a few strategies on how to win your league.

The first one I will get into is called buy low-sell high. This strategy consists of buying a player whose value is low because of a bad game, tough matchup, injury, etc. It also involves selling a player whose value is particularly bad because of



a breakout game, playing behind an injured star, etc. Some examples I can give you are Mike Gillislee, Tarik Cohen, and Jordan Howard. Mike Gillislee opened up the year on *Thursday Night Football*, scoring 22 fantasy points (non-ppr scoring) with three touchdowns. While yes, 22 is a lot of fantasy points, obviously he cannot sustain these numbers. Also, Tarik Cohen had a stellar week one and looked to the naked eye like he might take over star Jordan Howard's job who was not looking great. However, if a little

bit of research is done you can figure out that 5 foot and 6 inch Cohen could never become a workhorse. Realize that Howard is still the workhorse and sell Cohen high to an innocent opponent in your fantasy league who looks at Cohen's 17 points in awe.

Jordan Howard

could have been bought very low, and he now has got back into his groove. That was a huge opportunity to capitalize with doing a bit of research in your league. I know this sounds like work but all that needs to be done is look at top performers from the first couple of weeks and know if there numbers are sustainable. I hope you can use this tip in the future to improve your fantasy team and dominate your league.



## GET READY TO PERFORM! April is National Poetry Month

### It is Time for the Annual Junior School Recitation Competition

Entry level performance competitions begin in each English class in April, with winners from each class moving on to the main competition in Massey Commons on Tuesday, April 10 and Wednesday, April 11.

The seventh-grade finalists and eighth-grade finalists will face off for the grade level winners on Tuesday, April 17 in the Dead Poets Room.

Prizes are awarded to each grade level winner.  
Contact your English teacher or Mrs. Roberts for more information.



By Frank Hancock

Super Bowl LII was played in Minneapolis, MN. The New England Patriots faced the Philadelphia Eagles. It was an exciting game from the beginning, but in the end, the champion was crowned.

The first quarter was owned by the Eagles; it started out with an opening drive that took almost 7 minutes off the clock. Jake Elliott kicked a 25 yard FG. New England took the next position for a 9 play 3 minute drive for a 26 yard FG from Stephen Gostkowski. Then the Nick Foles that the fans had been waiting for showed up. It took him only three plays to find Alshon Jeffery for 34 yards in the end zone.

At the start of the second quarter, New England started by missing a 26 yard FG, but the Eagles couldn't move anywhere. They punted back to New England who tried to go for a 4th down but did not convert. So, Nick Foles took advantage, and the Eagles started to drive down to the Patriots' 21. The next play, LeGarrette Blount, a former Patriot who won Super Bowl LI with the team, blasted through the line and ran in for a touchdown. New England responded with a FG the next possession. Four plays

later, Nick Foles threw his 1st, and only, interception. New England then marched right down the field on a seven-play, 90 yard drive for a 26 yard TD run by James White. The Eagles responded with

their own TD drive and got down on the New England 1. Then, Eagles' coach Doug Peterson opened up his bag of tricks, a reverse end-around pass. Running back Corey Clement got the ball, ran to the left, pitched the ball to tight end Trey Burton who threw it to Nick Foles in the back of the end zone. Philadelphia took a 22-12 lead into the half.

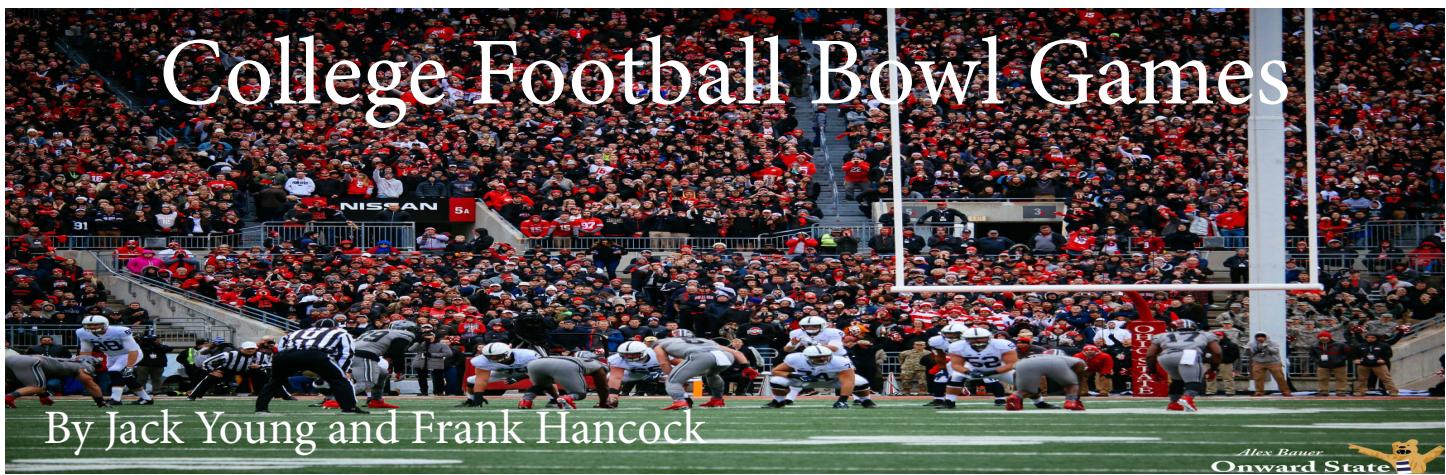
After Justin Timberlake's halftime performance, the third quarter began. New England came out, much like they did in the 2nd quarter, on fire. They had an eight-play 75 yard drive that ended in a Brady-To-Gronk touchdown. The Eagles then responded with an eleven-play, 85 yard drive that was capitalized by Nick Foles to Corey Clement in the back of the end zone. But Tom Brady and Bill Belichick never gave up. The Pats had a seven-play, 75 yard TD drive that ended in a Chris Hogan pass from Tom Brady to make the score 29-26.

The Eagles could only respond with a field goal at the beginning of the 4th quarter. Tom Brady took advantage. Brady had a ten-play, 75 yard drive that ended with another Brady-To-Gronk connection. Nick Foles knew what he had to do next. He led the Eagles on fourteen-play, 75 yard drive. The touchdown

was the game changing-play. The Eagles were on the New England 11. Peterson called a pass from Foles to star tight end Zach Ertz. As Ertz reached the end zone and he was diving for the ground, the ball came out into the end zone and Ertz got it back. The officials called review. After a good five minutes, the refs said that Ertz had complete control and that the ground caused the fumble. Now the Eagles had to play defense. When Brady got the ball back, he started at his own 25. The first play they got eight yards. The second play changed the course of the game. Brady was pressured by the four-man front of the Eagles and coughed up the football on a sack-fumble by Brandon Graham. The former Tennessee star and current rookie Derrick Barrett found the ball and jumped on it. The Eagles then "milked the clock" as announcers say and kicked a 46 yard field goal with 1:05 left in the game. The Pats must find the end zone, but they never will. After eight plays, Brady must set up for a Hail Mary from his 49 yard line. The Eagles put it down at the goal line and win.

In the end, the Philadelphia Eagles win their first Super Bowl in franchise history. Nick Foles is named the MVP of Super Bowl LII. The future may be unknown for Belichick, Brady, and even Nick Foles, but for now the Philadelphia Eagles are World Champions.





# College Football Bowl Games

By Jack Young and Frank Hancock

Alex Bauer  
Onward State

## The Cotton Bowl Classic

In the cotton bowl, #5 Ohio State's elite defense faced #12 USC's electrifying offense, led by quarterback Sam Darnold. According to Las Vegas, Ohio State was the favorite by 9.5 points, however, Sam Darnold wanted to prove that USC was the best team outside of the playoffs.

When heading into the game, Ohio State took the early lead in the first quarter and never stopped. In the second quarter, Ohio State led past USC's struggling defense and scored 17 points. And on the other side of the ball, USC's offense struggled against Ohio State's defense, only scrapping one touchdown. After a quiet second half where no team scored, Ohio State won, 24-7.

## The Orange Bowl

After a heartbreaking defeat for the playoff bound #7 Wisconsin Badgers in their bowl game against Ohio State, they played #13 Miami who had an equally challenging game in their bowl game, losing to Clemson. Before the game, Wisconsin was marked as the favorite by 6.5 points.

In the first quarter, Miami led past Wisconsin, and led 14-3. While the game seemed to be going in Miami's favor, Wisconsin made a great comeback in the second quarter, and scored 17 points. In a back and forth second half, both teams scoring 10 points, leading to Wisconsin's victory, 34-24.



## Alamo Bowl

In the Alamo Bowl, we saw two great programs, #20 Stanford and #9 TCU, battle it out in a back and forth game.

To start, Stanford scored 14, including a run to heisman candidate Bryce Love, to start the fourth quarter while stopping TCU on defense, only allowing a field goal and giving the offense crucial field position.

In the second, TCU finally scored a touchdown, but allowed Stanford getting a huge touchdown pass, ending the half at 21-10, Stanford.

In the second half, TCU changed the momentum. To start the half, they scored a 30 yard fake screen pass. After another Bryce Love touchdown run, TCU quarterback Kenny Hill escaped the pocket and threw a dart to Desmon White, making the score 28-17. After the touchdown, TCU managed two field goals, and allowed Stanford one of their one, making the score 31-23 entering the fourth quarter.

Thirty seconds into the fourth, TCU scored a 90 plus yard TD pass, making the score 28-26. After a failed two point conversion, TCU and Stanford both scored field goals, making it 31-29. Suddenly, the game defining play happened. Desmon White, who already had one passing and one catching touchdown fielded a punt at his 30. White sped past defenders and scored a punt return touchdown, making the score 31-36. After two Stanford field goals, TCU made of their one, clinching the game for TCU, 37-39.

## Fiesta Bowl

The Fiesta Bowl looked like an easy win for Penn State in the first half. Saquon Barkley and Trace McSorley were running (and passing) all over the Huskies. It was 28-14 at the half. But that was just the first half. In the second half, Washington started a comeback scoring 14 points. But Penn State scored just seven more. At the end, we all thought Washington had enough time to score, but there hook-and-ladder was picked off by Penn State linebacker

*Continued on page 22*

*Continued from page 21*

Brandon Smith. Saquon Barkley leaves for the NFL happy, and Penn State is excited for next season.

**Peach Bowl**

In the Peach Bowl, Auburn off of a playoff denying loss in the conference championship game versus Georgia, played red hot UCF. In a game Auburn fans everywhere wanted to forget, UCF outclassed a weak Auburn team. UCF came out scoring 13 in the first half against an Auburn offense that couldn't get going, only managing 6 points. Although Auburn tried their best in the third quarter, scoring 14, UCF denied them in the forth, clinching the game for UCF, 34-27.

**SEMI-FINALS****The Rose Bowl Classic**

We couldn't have started the Playoff any better with #2 Oklahoma and #3 Georgia in Pasadena. As usual the place was pretty but the game was even better. What people turned out to be an average score in the 20's or 30's turned into a high-scoring affair. The game was going so well that we had to go to OT. Both teams scored 3 points in the 1st OT, but we just didn't see enough football. In the second OT, Oklahoma settles for a Field Goal, but it ends up being blocked by Georgia's Linebacker Lorenzo Carter. Two plays later, Sony Michel runs it in for 6. 54 to 48. Georgia then moved on to the Championship Game.

**The Sugar Bowl**

This game in New Orleans was not as great as the first. Bama demolished Clemson in every way possible. Offense, Defense, and Special Teams. The final came out as a 24-6 game. Alabama moved on to play Georgia in the Nation Championship in Atlanta.

## THE LONELY PREACHER BY THE THIRD KING

HE STOOD,  
WAVING HIS ARMS,  
BANGING HIS HANDS  
AGAINST THE WOOD.  
PREACHING TO THE EMPTY FARMS,  
SEEING NO OTHER FANS.  
ALTHOUGH NO ONE SEES HIM,  
EVERYONE WILL HEAR HIM.  
BUT FIRST HE MUST GO AND GET  
MORE INK.  
AND WHILE HE IS OUT,  
HE MIGHT AS WELL MAIL HIS LETTER.

# The National Championship Game

By Charlie Murff

It was the master versus apprentice, the Dawgs vs the Tide, or just Georgia vs Alabama. Any way you want to say it, this game was a great game. Georgia started out strong in the first half leading 13-0 after a late second quarter touchdown and playing the Alabama defense like a fiddle. In the first half, Jalen Hurts could not do anything right, leaving us to wonder



at half time what Saban would do. Sure enough after half-time there were two freshmen quarterbacks in the game Jake Fromm for Georgia and Tua Tagovailoa.

The second half has some quick first possessions but then Tua finally got rolling, and got their first score on the board with a touchdown pass to Henry Ruggs. With that Georgia fired back with a touchdown pass to Mecole Hardman, to give Georgia the lead 20-7 with 6:53 to go. Then Tua threw a pick on 2nd and 10 giving Georgia some speed. Then, during the next play, a big man made a huge



play and got a INT to get Bama the ball back. Off the pick the Tide tried to capitalize and do with a field goal 20-10 with Georgia. But for the last bit of the third quarter, the defense

helped. But the fourth was where the Tide got rolling. Najee Harris ran for a big play that set up a field goal to make it 20-13: only a one touchdown game.

Alabama defense started to come and play, and they held the Bulldogs and got Bama the possession. Then with little time to spare Tua threw a hard pass to Calvin Ridley to score and tie the game up 20-20. With little time to go Alabama got the ball back after monster plays by the defense and got into field goal range.

Then, Alabama's kicker came out with the chance to win the game and missed, so they had to go to overtime.

In overtime Georgia got the ball first and needed to capitalize. Then when it was 3rd and 6 Alabama's big men came through (again), got a sack, and forced Georgia to kick a 51 yard field goal. This time the kicker did come through, giving Georgia the lead 23-20. But it was not over yet! Alabama got the ball and on 1st down, Tua got sacked for a big loss. The game looked over. However, on 2nd and 26 Tua made the biggest play of Alabama and Georgia's season by making a deep 41 yard touchdown pass to DeVonta Smith to win the game. What a way to end the College Football season!



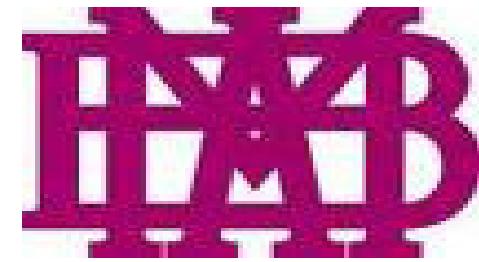
# A Team Soccer

By Ben McSween

The Junior School A soccer team had another great season overall. A combination of seventh and eighth graders started throughout the season as they went undefeated in the regular season with notable wins over USN and Grace Christian. Led by captains Braden Ziegler (8th) and John Gray Egbert (8th), the team looked good going into the playoffs as the number one seed. The MBA team came in hungry for their 16th straight HVAC title in a row. Due to MBA's placement, they received a bye the first round. The semifinal game was a rematch of last year's championship game between MBA and Grace Christian. Unfortunately, the team ended up losing in the semifinals in a hard fought game



3-1. Although this loss was tough, the team looks forward to getting back out there next year and restarting the streak. Teamwork and comradery helped the team develop throughout the season and pushed the team to get the best out of each individual. Although the final result wasn't what the team expected, it was a great overall season for the boys and helped the team grow.



# B Team Soccer

By Jack Keller

The MBA B soccer team was probably the best team to ever set foot on a soccer field. Coached by Mr. Lawrence, the team began its season looking to improve their all around skills while learning to bond and work together. The short season started out with multiple victories after weeks of intense training. Victories to USN, Ensworth, Harding, and BGA were all taken in stride as the team looked forward to the games to come. The defensive unit consisting of Coleman Roddy, Jack Keller, Jack Ryan, Cummings Levi, Brooks Smith, and Darin Hall along with goalies Harrison Jackson and Luke Larish only



allowed one goal the first five games. Offensively, the team was led by Houston Erickson, Pierce Hill, and Penn Andrews, along with seventh graders such as Thomas Harwell, Geoffrey Woodward, and Trey Wieck. Other members of the team included Robert Holliday, Jake Frazier, Frank Dinkins, John

Dayani, Gus Kirkland, Clayton Lee, and Brice Perkerson.

Following a win against Grace Christian Academy, and good attempts against Brentwood Academy and FRA, the team had its only true loss in the Tipps' Cup which went into shootouts. Regardless, the team focused less on winning, and more on teamwork, as well as hard work.



Overall, the team centered themselves on hustle, as well as enjoying the sport of soccer with teammates by their side.

# “C” Team Ends Undefeated Season By Clinching Tipps Cup

By Samuel Kinch

The Microbe “C” Team had a fantastic season. We went undefeated for the first time in “C” Team history, and rightfully so, with Jack, “The Marauding Magician” Meyers, and Alex, “The Sidewinder” Barnard blowing past the defense. Also, Parker “The Judge” Johnson and Marcel “The Headmaster” Reed sent defenses to the cleaners and guided in balls relative to a homing missile. The defense was unforgettable, with Colin “The Mad Mallet” Kerrigan and Caidan “Boom! Boom!” Maddux making sure ball or man got past, but not both.

This “C” Team was probably the best of its kind. The team owes gratitude to Coach Dougherty (aka Jürgen Klopp) for his halftime speeches that “would have been inspiring had it not been completely in German.” The success of the “C” Team was also due to the advanced knowledge and expertise of Coach Paolicchi, the Fiorentina man himself, for his accurate postgame summaries that lifted the spirits of the “C” Team and its fans each time it was read.

For the vast majority of the season, the “C” Team was



*Microbe C Soccer Team*

dominating, winning game after game. In this period, the team imagined, “Could it really happen? Could there really be an undefeated “C” Team?” Little did they know that the team would write history. They did not know that its victory would install courage and hope in future “C” Teamer’s hearts. The penultimate game versus the “B” Team would communicate how good of a season it was. They had known about the game from the first day of practice when Coach Paolicchi told the squad it would be a hard match and that only once has a fine “C” Team taken the “B” Team to penalties and lost.

This match did not falter in its expectations. The first half was a stalemate, but the second half had everything. The first goal was scored by Caidan Maddux, only in the wrong net, soon after the “B” Team lost their focus, and when Dawson “Bam! Bam!” Bowling put in a tight cross, it got scrambled around and ended up in the “B” team net. The

following goal was a good shot put inside the box and had enough curl to slide just under goalkeeper Samuel “Supreme Commander” Kinch. Then the final goal was a penalty scored again by Bowling. The “B” Team looked at his red hair like the way a bull would and charged into him.

Tied at two, the game went into penalties. The first taker for the “B” Team kicked the ball over the goal. Dawson shot and scored. Then, the “B” team scored. Then all of a sudden, Marcel missed, the B team missed, Jack missed, and then the B team missed again. Finally, Parker scored, they scored, then Maxwell “Razzle-Dazzle” Rzasnicki finished to put the game away for the “C” team.

With this phenomenal victory, it puts the “C” team in great form to make the “A” Team next year, and bring with it more glory to the Big Red.

# Junior School Swimming

By Reid Ragsdale

The Montgomery Bell Academy Swim Team finished its season with two strong first place wins in the Regionals and HVAC meets. The "Sea Pups" had an undefeated season with wins against Ensworth, CMSS, USN, and BA. The team had a great roster with eighth graders; Jace Breeden, Joseph Dattilo, Joe Grant, Hank Healy, William Huber, Wren Jacobs, Cummings Levi, Elliot Lyell, Joshua Mi, Brice Perkerson, Peyton Phillips, Reid Ragsdale, Reed Ruccio, and Noah Wisniewski. The seventh graders included; Miles Butler, Simon Cian, Isaiah Dulin, Ryan Fisher, Owen Flanagan, Gus Kirkland, Clayton Lee, Jackson Lefler, Christian Lim, Olivier Pilkinton, Owen Reese, Ryan



Sharifi, Walker Stevens, Patrick Tatro, and Vincent Wang.

In the Regionals Meet, the relay team of Elliot Lyell, Isaiah Dulin, Oliver Pilkinton, and Owen Reese placed first and set a record in the 4 by 400 Free Relay and also placed



2017-2018 Microbe Swim Team--HVAC Champions!

in the 4 by 200 Medley Relay. The

relay team of Joe Grant, Reid Ragsdale, Noah Wisniewski, and Jace Breeden placed third in the 4 by 200 Free Relay. We had many swimmers at the Regionals meet qualify for finals in their individual strokes. In the end, the Sea Pups won with 307 points.

Throughout many difficult practices, the MBA swim team worked hard to become better swimmers. Their efforts clearly paid off as seen in the scores of the

I would recommend swimming to anyone who wants to stay in shape or to be able to compete on a great team with a strong bond.





*The 2017-2018 Microbe Wrestling Team*

## Junior School Wrestling

By Nate Cantrell

The junior school wrestlers had a successful season. They started their season off strong with two consecutive wins, both by 40 or more, against Ensworth and Harding. Then they lost to Mill Creek the following week 57-24. They traveled to Franklin Road Academy and went right through them. Pin-after-pin, match-after-

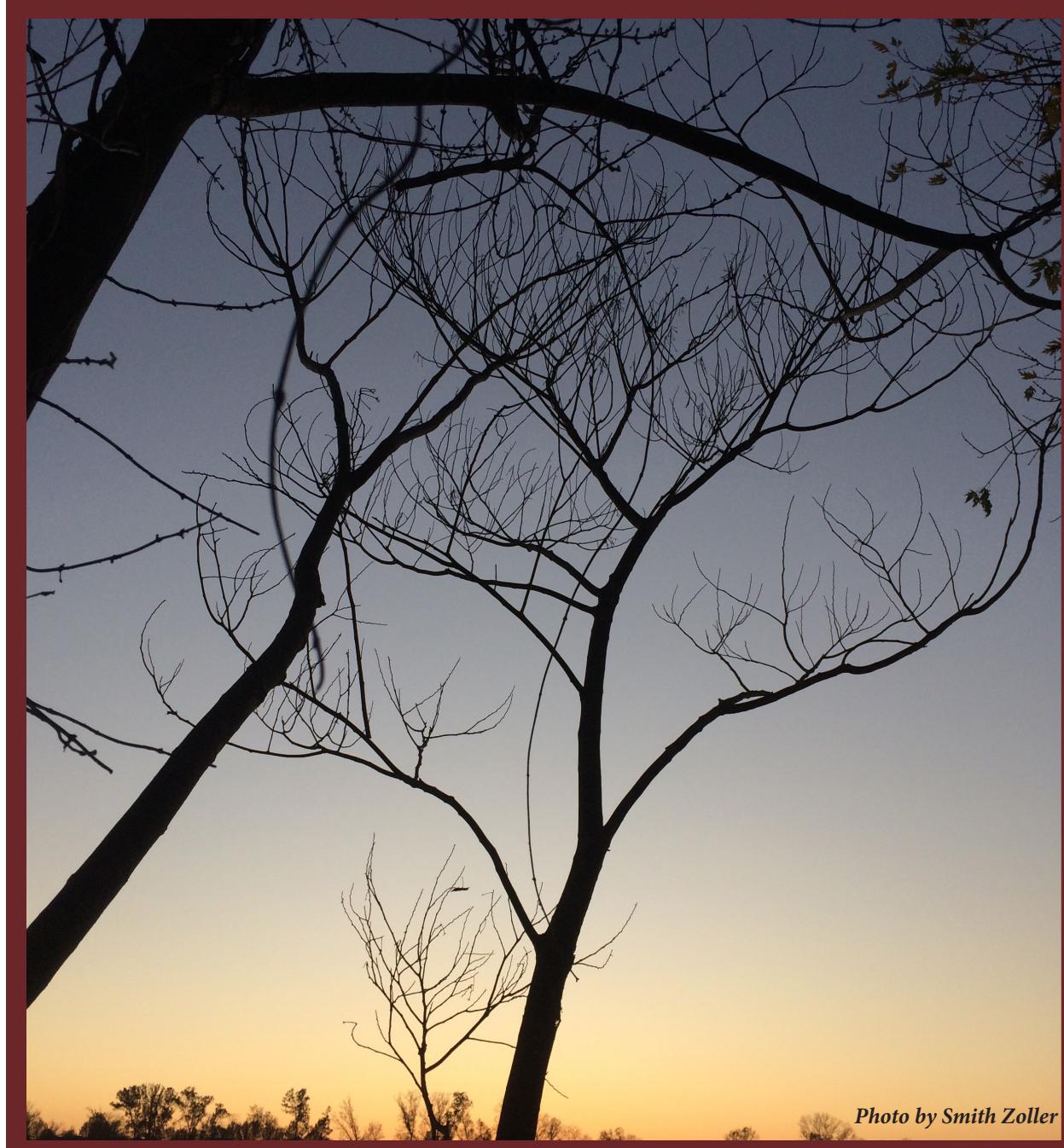
match, the Big Red wrestling team left with a 71-6 win. Two days later were the MBA duals. Teams included Dickson Middle, Mill Creek, Baylor, Mill Creek Middle, and MBA's bitter rivals, Nashville Catholic and Brentwood Academy. The Big Red ended up with 4th place. Nashville Catholic showed up at MBA three days later and handed MBA a tough loss. After the loss, the Big Red came back strong and beat Battle Ground Academy at home. To end the regular season, the wrestlers traveled to BA. After a tough match, MBA lost 49-21.

The Big Red wrestlers had a successful HVAC tournament. Henry Ribble, Grayson Soper,

and Will Burke finished 1st in their respective weight classes. Jake Frazier at 90 pounds finished 5th, and William Holleman at 106 finished 8th. Mac Russ (98 lbs) placed second in a close and hard-fought match. Browning Trainer at 114 pounds finished 4th. MBA had two 3rd place finishers. Harrison Jackson who wrestled for only three weeks before the HVACs, finished 3rd as the heavyweight, along with Rylan Schroeder at 158 pounds who wrestled two weight classes up. Great matches were played throughout the year, and the Big Red had a strong season. Roll Red!



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*Photo by Smith Zoller*

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